

and fight the scourge of terrorism and their commitment not to allow their territory to be used for activities directed against or prejudicial to the security of the other.

The Joint Working Group of the Indo-Nepal Joint Technical Committee on the Border would continue its discussions on the relevant facts relating to the demarcation of the boundary alignment in the western sector including the Kalapani area, and hold its 4th Meeting at New Delhi in September.

On economic cooperation, it was agreed that Nepal's request of Indian assistance in setting up a Police Academy would be expeditiously followed up and that the details would be discussed during a meeting of the concerned officials of both sides prior to the next round of Home Secretary level talks.

In regard to the Pancheswar project, the two Foreign Secretaries noted the progress on preparation of the DPR through communications between the concerned Ministries and agreed that the concerned expert groups should meet as early as possible so that further substantial progress along with recommendations where relevant could be submitted to the High Level Task Force during its fifth meeting scheduled to be held by October 1997.

The Nepalese side raise the question of down-stream benefits from multi-purpose hydroelectric projects which may be executed in Nepal. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed between the Ministries of Water Resources of the two countries.

Regarding the question of regularisation of the services of Indian school and college teachers in Nepal which had been agreed to in 1991, the Foreign Secretary of Nepal briefed the Indian Foreign Secretary on progress in consideration of the matter by His Majesty's Government, which would continue to give its attention to the issue.

With regard to the request for establishing a Consulate General of India at Birganj, the Foreign Secretary of Nepal stated that it was under consideration of HMGN.

The two sides recalled the historic role of the 1950 Treaty as a framework for developing and strengthening of Indo-Nepal relations. They examined various aspects of the Treaty in the context of suggestions for a review with the objective of realising the full potential of the bilateral relationship, taking into account the present day needs and concerns of the two countries. It was agreed that specific proposals in this regard would be discussed.

His Excellency the Foreign Secretary of Nepal separately called on Secretary, Commerce and Secretary, Water Resources of the Government of India.

The talks were held in a friendly, frank and cordial atmosphere. Both sides agreed that the meeting had been useful and productive, and had enabled a valuable exchange of views. It was agreed that discussions would be continued at the next round of Foreign Secretary level talks later this year on mutually convenient dates.

[Translation]

Women Workers

*6. SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :
SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by the Government in regard to number of women workers working in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether the government have also identified the number of women factory workers, domestic workers and beedi workers, separately;

(d) whether the Government have conducted any survey regarding their literacy; and

(e) if so, the details of facilities provided to them in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (e) According to the 1991 census, the number of women workers in the country is 89,767,563. State-wise information regarding number of women workers is given in the enclosed statement.

The number of women factory workers in 1994 was 5.91 lakh. 1.76 lakh women were engaged in bidi making in the organised sector in 1995. No information is available regarding the number of domestic women workers.

Whereas no specific survey regarding literacy level among the women workers has been carried out, according to the 1991 census, the overall literacy rate among the women in the country was 39.29 per cent.

The details of facilities provided to women workers include, *inter alia*, the following:

- (i) total literacy campaigns are being undertaken in 442 districts in the country wherein the illiterate women workers in the age group of 15-35 can also receive functional literacy.

- (ii) under the grant-in-aid scheme, financial assistance is also given to voluntary agencies for creating awareness among the women workers.

STATEMENT

Statewise Number of Female Labourers (1991 Census)

Sl.	State/U.T.	Total female workers including marginal workers
1	2	3
	INDIA	89,767,653
1.	Andhra Pradesh	11,252,643
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	149,789
3.	Assam	2,324,535
4.	Bihar	6,116,974
5.	Goa	117,977
6.	Gujarat	5,180,886
7.	Haryana	821,299
8.	Himachal Pradesh	888,985
9.	Karnataka	6,472,816
10.	Kerala	2,347,268
11.	Madhya Pradesh	10,430,890
12.	Maharashtra	12,617,454
13.	Manipur	350,134
14.	Meghalaya	302,853
15.	Mizoram	143,964
16.	Nagaland	215,722
17.	Orissa	3,241,991
18.	Punjab	414,646
19.	Rajasthan	5,744,129
20.	Sikkim	57,790

1	2	3
21.	Tamil Nadu	8,236,872
22.	Tripura	184,333
23.	Uttar Pradesh	8,019,310
24.	West Bengal	3,662,855
25.	Andman & Nicobar Islands	16,584
26.	Chandigarh	29,443
27.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	32,944
28.	Daman & Diu	11,584
29.	Delhi	314,076
30.	Lakshadweep	1,906
31.	Pondicherry	60,911

Note :- Census was not held in Jammu & Kashmir in 1991.

[English]

Indo-Pak Relations

*7. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :
SHRI A.C. JOS :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has been made in talks held between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan to further improve Indo-Pak relations;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether during the talks the issues of prisoners of wars detained in Pakistan during the last Indo-Pak war was also discussed.

(d) whether Prime Minister of India made any categorical statement on the issue of Kashmir to Prime Minister of Pakistan; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):
(a) to (e) Prime Minister had bilateral meetings with the Prime Minister of Pakistan in Male on 12 May, 1997